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Letter from Thomas G. Clemson to Elias Baker, 1854 July 19

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How are you suited or situated
in that respect - you have so
many young of them perhaps it
would be possible for you to turn
a pair over to me - If you have
a pair well broken, and of good
size that you could dispense with
I should take it as a favour. You
might perhaps do this even if
you had to purchase a pair from
a chow - you (having so many)
could easily break a pair in your
teams by working those unbroken with
those already broken. My workmen
can not be depended on for they
leave me from day to day & I should
not have any confidence in my power
in that way -

When are you coming this way?
I had hoped in the spring to
have gotten up to see you but
I can not think of it in my
present state of health.

Love to all in which Anna joins
Eliza Baker Esq. Yours truly & affectionately
Thos. S. Clapp

Bladenburg July 19th/54

My dear Sir

I write you, not because
I have any thing very particular to
state but merely to inform you
that I have no tidings from
Belgium since I last wrote
you. I presume that the
maker of the furniture has de-
cided to finish the entire
command before sending any
portion of it & that I shall
shortly hear of the whole being
shipped. Indeed it is fortunate
that it has not come in the
last month for I should not
have been able to go to New
York to see to it, being landed
& shipped to you - I have been
a great sufferer & am still

occasionally in great agony &
I do not think that I should
be better until I have an
operation performed - I have
them well enough to handle
I think I should have gone to
Phila for the purpose of con-
sulting a Surgeon -

My farming operations have gotten
along badly - on account of the
difficulty I have with work-
men - They are difficult to be
had at any wages & worthles
(for the most part) when pro-
cured - I have thought that
it would be impossible for me
to farm it here as I have been
doing & must make some arrange-
ments that will prove more
satisfactory. Regrets I think will
be the result that I shall be
compelled to - They are hazardous
& give much trouble & require

constant watching, besides so near
the frontier they may leave you
and once in the hands of the ab-
originals - I shall
persevere as long as I can hold out
& when I find I can go it no longer
I will place you in possession of
plans - The more I know of it
the better I am pleased with it.
I think the land remarkably fine-
ly cultivated. My crop of oats
turned out well. My rye badly
in very poor in late & very poor put
in - My Corn is promising not-
withstanding that it was put
in late - of the season is long
I shall make corn if we have
early frost it will be curtailed.

For my farming operations I think
I will have to come to mules
but I have not been able to
go about to see after them
they charge high & you must
take them without being broken